be met by the phrase 'conform to the orders.'[5] I do not know whether this is so or not. . . ."

He excused his assent to the Calais arrangement at the time on the plea that as far as he personally was concerned he had received no previous notification of what was contemplated. He, however, admitted that Sir Douglas Haig had informed him at Calais that he clearly understood the instructions of the War Cabinet regarding the forthcoming operations *as previously communicated to him* and that he would do his best to meet those instructions.

This unfortunate dispute necessitated another Conference, which was held on 12th and 13th March in London, three or four weeks after the March date originally fixed for the attack. I

Conference in London

made it clear in the course of the discussions that took place that the British War Cabinet resented the tone adopted in the documents sent from the French Headquarters to Sir Douglas Haig. Here is the Minute of my statement ; I quote it as one illustration out of many of the support I invariably accorded to the Commander-in-Chief on all questions where his personal authority and prestige were concerned.

" Mr. Lloyd George said that this was another point which had arisen in his discussions with the two Commanders-in-Chief.

He had
My effort urged that, unless there was goodwill,
anY agreement would be a failure.
He had pointed out that the two first
documents sent by General Nivelle to Sir Douglas
Haig, after the signature of the Calais Agreement,
were couched in rather peremptory tones. As he